

# ST. LOUIS CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

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## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The people's representatives at what the old-time folks used to call the "Federal City," seem to have been quite industrious last week, and a good deal of business was pushed forward.

On Wednesday last the Finance committee of the Senate reported with recommendations that it pass a bill intended to substitute the Resumption bill in the House. Its importance justifies its publication here. It is as follows:

"An act to amend an act to provide for resumption of specie payment and for other purposes:

That from and after the passage of this act United States notes shall be receivable in payment for United States bonds now authorized by law to be issued on and after October 1, 1878, said notes shall be receivable for duties on imports and said notes in volume in existence October 1, 1878, shall not be collected or permanently hoarded, but shall be re-issued and they may be used for funding and all other lawful purposes whatsoever, to an amount not exceeding in the whole the amount then in circulation and in the treasury, and the said notes, whether then in the treasury or thereafter received under any act of congress, and from whatever source, shall be again paid out, and when again returned to the treasury they shall not be cancelled or destroyed, but shall be issued from time to time with like qualities; and all that part of the act of January 14, 1875, entitled "An act to provide for resumption of specie payments," authorizing the retirement of eighty per cent. of United States notes shall cease and become inoperative on and after said October 1, 1878.

SEC. 2. All laws and parts of laws inconsistent with this act shall be and are hereby repealed."

It is easy to see that the passage of this bill would be virtual resumption by equalizing the value of gold, silver and green-back currency and at the same time prevent the contraction of paper currency which otherwise would occur. Whatever speculators may say or do, the fact will be that under the operations of this act gold, silver and United States notes will be regarded as of equal value.

This is another step forward in the interests of the people. Let this bill be passed, then, with what had been done previously, the "sovereign people" may congratulate themselves on having gained a great deal during the present congress. The recovery from our embarrassed and depressed condition must in the very necessities of the case be slow, but the prospect now is it will be sure. Industry and economy faithfully practised by the people generally, will, under the blessings of heaven, lead us all, sooner or later, to a better and more desirable state of things.

One of the leading parties in congress, not strictly political parties, but tariff and anti-tariff parties, have been making efforts to have congress adjourn on the tenth of June, and a resolution to that effect has been passed in the Senate. Should it be passed by the House it would shut off the consideration of the Tariff bill. And this, it is said, is what is desired by the friends of the resolution. The high tariff men do not want the bill to be passed, as it would be likely to lessen the profits of the manufacturers in the east and north, while western and southern men, representing the farming and planting interests, favor the bill, as it reduces the price of many articles they are compelled to buy.

The proposition to levy an income tax is another that meets with favor in the west and south, but not in the east and north. In 1862 a government bond of \$1,000 could be bought for about \$400, and many were bought at about that rate.

The interest on that bond was six per cent. per annum, payable in gold semi-annually, which is equivalent to about fifteen per cent. No taxes, not a cent, are paid on that bond, and when due it as well as the interest was to be paid in gold. So at the end of twenty years, or four years from now, when the bond is paid the holder will have received, interest \$1,200, principal \$1,000, or \$2,200 for this \$400 investment. Not a bad business, yet many of those holders of bonds grumble prodigiously about the silver bill, and still more over the substitute for the resumption bill, as quoted above. Plain people favorable to fair dealing will likely fail to appreciate the grounds for such grumbling.

The Mississippi levee question still meets with much favor, and the probabilities are fair that something efficient will be done at least in preparing for a careful survey of the ground, and an intelligent scientific report as to what needs to be done. Of course this is the first step to be taken; let us hope the next will speedily follow. Our fellow-citizens, Capt. Eads, Hons. J. Brown and J. Hogan have taken an active part in the matter and done good service.

Toward the close of the week it was pretty generally agreed that the tariff bill would not be reached during the present session of congress. This is rather unfortunate. It is due to the people that the whole question pass under revision as early as possible. Not many of them are fully aware of the additional tax the consumer has to pay on what he pur-

chases, because of the existing tariff rates.

The provisions of the income tax as agreed upon by the committee are in part as follows:

Incomes over two, and not exceeding five thousand dollars, are taxable two per cent.; from five to ten thousand, three per cent.; and above that sum, four per cent. The bill is made up of a great many particulars, which will be noticed in this paper, should congress agree and make it a law.

The people of South Carolina are greatly delighted with their present state of affairs as compared with what it formerly was, and leading Republicans there, both white and colored, are open and loud in their praises of Gov. Hampton. All acknowledge he has kept, and is faithfully keeping his promises to protect all classes of citizens, by seeing to it that the laws were faithfully executed without partiality, fear or affection. And they are all beginning to realize the difference between having an intelligent, honest and honorable gentleman as a ruler, and a set of unscrupulous shysters and ignoramuses. The readers of this paper may remember the opinions we expressed, or rather the declarations we made in regard to Gen. Hampton when he became a candidate for governor of that State, and they can now learn that not one of those utterances was incorrect. He was, and has proven himself, the man for the times and occasion—would there were more such men in our country.

A fearful storm raged last week along the line of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad. Several persons were killed, a greater number were more or less injured, while the destruction of property was terrible.

That nauseating Plymouth Church scandal has been revived. Some years ago when the matter was in full blast, we expressed the opinion that about one half the participants were fit subjects for the lunatic asylum, and the other half fit for the penitentiary; nor have we since seen much if any reason to change that opinion.

Reports of lynchings—that is hanging persons without judge or jury—continue to reach us from various quarters. Will people never learn that this is a dangerous business, dangerous to every interest of society and destructive of all personal safety. Every man engaged either directly or indirectly in such business ought to be arrested, punished, and thus taught that law, not passion, should rule in this country.

## FOREIGN.

The news from abroad varies but little in its general character from that heretofore published. On Friday of last week the report was favorable to the promotion of peace, but next day it was all the other way. It seems that Germany has been endeavoring to effect a reconciliation between England and Russia, and had proposed a preliminary congress for the purpose of considering what changes if any should be made in the treaties of 1856 and 1871. To this, it is said, Russia would consent, but England refused to go into a congress on any other conditions than those stated at first—the submission for discussion of all particulars in the treaty of San Stefano—and so the matter stands as it was. At least this is the report, and if it be true there is little probability of a congress meeting, and as little of preventing an Anglo-Russian war. There is a report to the effect that Russia will consent to a discussion of all the clauses of the San Stefano treaty, but at the same time desires it to be distinctly understood that "discuss" as they may, she will defend that treaty in all its particulars to the utmost of her military power.

A recent change in the Turkish ministry is thought to be favorable to Russia. But that is mere guess work. Ill feeling is said to be increasing between Russia and Roumania, while the Thessalian rebellion has been virtually if not actually put down. The Greeks are said to be disheartened, and are now relying on England.

A large force of native troops, in the interest of England, have been ordered from Bombay to Malta, which is understood as an intimation to Russia that if she fights England she must also fight the East India troops. This might do for a beginning, but a war of that kind would not continue long before the spirit of insurrection would be manifested in India and England might need a large increase of force to keep it down.

The reports from Erzeroum tell us of fearful mortality there and in that vicinity. Thirteen thousand sick and wounded Turkish soldiers have died in that city since the Turkish army evacuated it, and twenty-one thousand Russian soldiers are said to have died since their armies entered the Erzeroum plain.

The great Exposition will be opened in Paris, May 1st.

There is a general strike on the part of the operatives in the cotton factories of England. There has also been a serious riot at Clackmannan near Glasgow. Some miners on a strike attacked the sheriff's officers. Several houses were wrecked and the telegraph lines destroyed. There were also serious riots last week between the young Britons and Irish Catholics in

Montreal, Canada. Still further, we have intelligence of rioting in Moscow, Russia, where some three thousand students and workmen were concerned. Twelve were killed and twenty-five wounded. One hundred of the rioters had been arrested.

So far as learned here there has been no change in the general aspect of affairs in Asia since last report, nor in Africa except perhaps a fuller report of the poverty and indebtedness of Egypt, which country it is likely England will have to take for debts due, and even then it may be an expense to the creditor.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

—On Saturday, the anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, the House of Representatives voted \$5,000 for a monument over his grave.

—Rev. J. W. Shannon, pastor of the Congregational Church at Emporia, Kan., was accidentally shot and killed on the 9th inst., by a militiaman.

—The grand jury at Richmond, Va., having taken action against nearly all the gambling houses of the city the gamblers hurriedly left town.

—The Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Chicago is pressed with a floating debt of \$12,000, the payment of which is demanded.

—The Presbyterian Theological Seminary in San Francisco has been seven years in existence, and has seven students.

—On the 11th inst. Bayard Taylor, United States Minister to Germany, sailed in the steamer Holsatia. Mr. and Mrs. Halstead, daughter and son—Miss Jennie and Robert; and Mark Twain and family; were passengers on the same steamship.

—Governor Hubbard, of Texas, has been promised aid by the Government at Washington in his efforts to suppress the train-robbers and outlaws of that State. Similar aid to resolute efforts made to protect our Mexican frontiers from the frequent inroads and depredations of Mexican marauders will now be in order.

—Another terrible scene of intemperance was exhibited at Niagara Falls a few days since, when two brothers, Captain J. and Patrick Riley, stupefied with rum, attempted to cross the river above the falls. In their stupor they lost their course, were floated into the rapids, and soon after swept into the yawning abyss.

—The May anniversaries are to be held as follows: American Home Missionary Society, Sunday, May 5th; American Seaman's Friend Society, Monday, 6th; National Temperance Publication Society, Tuesday, 7th; American Tract Society, Wednesday, 8th; New York City Mission, Thursday, 9th; New York Sunday-school Teachers' Association, Friday, 10th; American Board C. F. M., Sunday, 12th.

—According to the *Madras Catholic Directory* for 1878, there is in India a Roman Catholic population of 958,780, with 1,084 priests. And there are in Ceylon, British Borneo, Siam, and the Malayan Peninsula 213,899 more. The total of bishops in the entire territory is 20, of schools, 1,228, and of children at school 53,341. Nearly all are in Southern India. The Agra vicariate, including all the northwest and the Punjab, has 14,300; the Calcutta vicariate 14,000. The tables contain nothing to indicate how many of these Catholics are natives.

—The United Presbyterian Mission in Rajpootana numbers ten missionaries, three English catechists and teachers, and twenty-nine native agents. The converts baptized during the year, nearly all orphans or other adherents of the mission, were sixteen, the Christian community numbers 291, the communicants are 271. The orphans number 253, and the scholars besides these are 2,981. Orphanages and dispensaries are established at nearly every station.

—For the first nine days of April, 1877, the receipts from internal revenue aggregated \$2,823,521; receipts for the corresponding period this year, \$5,434,771—a falling off of \$388,749. Receipts for fiscal year 1877 to April 9th, \$88,908,322; same period this year, \$83,179,933—a decrease of \$5,728,388.

—The civil suit of James A. Whelan against Major-General Sheridan, for recovery of damages amounting to \$410,000 for the destruction of a plantation in Louisiana during the war, has been set for trial in the United States Circuit Court at New York, the 24th inst.

Mr. Worth, the fish distributor, has placed the following young fish in N. C. waters: 1,000 in ponds around Greensboro; 8,000 or 9,000 in Dan river; 1,000 at Salisbury; 600 in Maj. Wilson's pond, near Morganton; 500 in Upper creek; 500 in John's river, and 5,000 to 6,000 in Linville river. These are exclusively fresh water fish.

—The Lenoir Topic is earnestly in favor of the Moffet Bell Punch for North Carolina. The life of a man who drinks daily is so uncertain, and his average of days so low, that if he is to do his part toward the revenue of the country with any degree of certainty, he must pay as he goes. When he takes a drink let him

pay on it, for there is no telling but that may be the last.

—Hannah de Rothschild, only daughter and sole heir of Baron Meyer de Rothschild, was recently married to Earl Roseberry, a prominent member of the English Parliament, and a reputable debater on the Liberal side in the House of Lords. Hannah de Rothschild was a Jewess, and though vastly rich—having an annual income of \$600,000, besides inheriting lands, jewels and other property—the only jewelry visible on her person at the time of the marriage ceremony was a plain gold bracelet on the right wrist. Earl Roseberry is proprietor of the London *Examiner*, and is not thirty years of age.

—The last Pacific Methodist brings intelligence of the death of the Rev. M. W. Glover, a superannuated member of the Los Angeles Conference.

—Dr. McFerrin states that the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has increased 350,000 members since the close of the war, and since the separation of the colored work.

—Eliza Weaver Bradburn, daughter of the Rev. Samuel Bradburn, the associate of John Wesley, died on the 8th of March, aged eighty-five years.

—Bishop Kavanaugh has consented to preach before the Biblical Department of Vanderbilt University, the Sunday of Commencement-week, May 26, 1878.

—A "National Sunday-School Convention" was held last week at Atlanta, Georgia. Some 400 delegates present. Have not yet heard the result of their deliberations.

—TELEGRAPHY IN EUROPE.—Last year there were expended for telegrams in the countries of Europe \$15,400,000, at an average of 32 cents per message. In this expenditure Great Britain led the list with nearly 43 per cent. of the whole; France came next with about 22 per cent.; Germany, 18 per cent.; no other country exceeded 4 per cent. The length of wires in Great Britain very slightly exceeds that of Germany, and is nearly a fourth more than France; in this particular, Switzerland takes the lead of the smaller European States.

—Rev. Geo. Muller, the celebrated English Evangelist of Bristol, now on a visit to this country, lectured in different Protestant churches in St. Louis. At the Centenary M. E. Church, by request of the St. Louis pastors, he narrated the story of his evangelical work in England, especially telling of his great orphan asylum. Rev. Mr. Muller took for his text, John xiv, 13, 14, and during the course of his remarks gave the following facts concerning his labors and a portion of their results:

By birth he was a Prussian, born September 27, 1805. His father intended him for a clergyman and educated him with that intent. While at the university he was converted; and since then he had led a happy Christian life. Early in 1829 he went to London as a missionary for the Christianizing the Jews, but soon became discouraged with the work and settled as pastor of a church in Devonshire. While here he decided to never again receive a regular salary or ask any human being for help, but to depend on God for all his needs. God always tests our faith and soon after the trial came to him, money and provisions were all gone, and want was imminent when the Lord wonderfully provided for him. God had for forty-eight years given him his food, clothing and shelter, and he could trust Him for everything. Such instances might be given by the score. The first school was founded at Bristol, March 5, 1834, its object was the secular and religious education of poor children. Circulars were issued and sent to friends asking their advice in regard to its management. Two principles were laid down by Mr. Muller for all his work. First, have God for his only patron, and second, never go into debt.

Every year the schools have increased in number and usefulness; there are now 75 day schools, 33 Sunday-schools, 6 adult schools, having over 10,000 pupils; 65,000 persons have attended them, thousands of whom have been converted; thousands of copies of the Scriptures have been circulated every year, besides vast quantities of religious books and tracts, and 150 missionaries have been assisted.

Eighteen months after the schools were started the orphanage work was commenced. In prayer he asked God for a house, keepers and £1,000; it all came; then he asked for orphans, and they came. The work grew rapidly; one building after another was put up until the cost has amounted to over \$600,000, all of which has come in direct answer to prayer. He had never asked for a cent, yet God had sent him over \$6,000,000 since he began his work.

The object of the sermon was not to encourage men to try the scheme of orphanages here; but to induce Christians to learn the value of prayer, and learn to depend on God as one who is able and willing to do whatsoever ye ask.

—A most unfortunate man, a resident of Murray county, Ga., has since the war accidentally killed five men. The first was slain by an axe slipping from his

hand and striking the victim on the head; the second he drowned by snagging and sinking a boat in which the pair were crossing a stream; the third was shot through the brain, being mistaken for a turkey; the fourth was killed by a tree he had chopped down; and the fifth was killed at a log rolling. He was put on trial for his life on several occasions, but each time exonerated from all blame. He is a peaceable, law-abiding man, simply the victim of a chain of unhappy circumstances.

## Literary.

"A Miracle in Stone; or, The Great Pyramid of Egypt. By Joseph A. Seiss, D.D., pastor of the Church of the Holy Communion, Philadelphia, Pa., author, etc. Second edition. Porter & Coates."

We took up this book with no special partialities for the author as a writer. Had read with attention some of his theological works, and found them to be of the Cummings, Baxter and Walter order. Sprightly and pleasant in style, but greatly lacking in correctness of exposition. A pre-millennial Adventist exposition and following those visionary applications of Apocalyptic symbols and those far-fetched expositions of prophetic teaching that characterize the whole school. This did not impress us at all favorably as to the theological lore, extent of research or closeness of study on the part of the author. None of the successors of Meade have equalled him in extent of research or accuracy and force of argument on that subject, and yet it is well-known he utterly fails; or, what is equivalent, directly uses a *petitio principii* in regard to two or three points vital to his case, and his successors have failed more signally than did he.

With views and impressions like these we took up the book under notice, a 12mo volume of 250 pages, about half of which we have read with care, and find it highly entertaining and instructive. The author has gathered quite an array of interesting facts in regard to that wonder of the world—the great Pyramid of Egypt, and presents them in a very satisfactory manner.

Some weeks ago, when noticing a book by Rev. Dr. Field, entitled "From Egypt to Japan," we took occasion to speak somewhat at length in regard to that Pyramid as he saw and described it; also as it was described by Prof. Smyth, who spent so much time and labor in examining it. Dr. Seiss gives many interesting and some very astonishing facts, as they were discovered by others, and every additional fact does but increase our wonder and intensify our desire to learn more.

The ancient Greeks did well when they characterized that Pyramid as one of the seven wonders of the world; and with great propriety they might have called it the wonder of the world. There is nothing like it in all the world; never was, nor is it at all likely there ever will be. There are other pyramids in the same region, but the best of them are but poor and feeble imitations of this. It stands alone, unsurpassed, unequalled, while its symbolical teachings are now being shown to be of the most important as well as of the most wonderful character. That it has stood there during at least four thousand years has been satisfactorily, and, as we think, irrefutably proven. That the builders had a knowledge of astronomy and geometry far beyond what has ordinarily been supposed to have belonged to that age of the world is demonstrated. Taken all in all, there is not a greater wonder in all the earth.

But our space will not allow of a more extended notice at present.

In the second part of the book under notice the author attempts to connect the Pyramid with various passages found in the Old Testament writings, and concludes, with Prof. Smyth, that it was, like the Tabernacle, built under Divine direction for wise purposes as yet not fully revealed. In this part of the book, which we have read only editorially—that is, scanned it a little here and a little there—there are many historical facts, some very interesting suggestions, and some mere speculations. But altogether, it is a book of thrilling interest.

"Ramblings in Wonder-Land; or, Up the Yellowstone, and Among the Geysers and other Curiosities of the National Park. By Edwin J. Stanley. With illustrations. New York: Appleton & Co. 1878."

The reader may think it strange, yet it is true that we always feel greater hesitancy in attempting to notice a production of one to whom we are strongly attached than of those to whom we are comparatively indifferent, or on whom as authors we look with disfavor. The reason is, experience has taught us that our likes are much more apt to bias our judgment than our dislikes. This may seem unnatural, but it is so. Take the book of a writer to whom we are indifferent, or whom we regard with more or less disfavor, and we can easily separate the book from the man—consider its merits and speak of it accordingly, without scarce a thought of the writer. But with the book of a friend it is different. It is like a letter from him, and in spite of it we will be thinking of him all the while.

The author of the book under notice is a personal friend, whom we esteem; more, we really love. A young man—a Missionary, who, as we believe, under a divine call entered the ministry in our denomination several years ago, and has nearly all the while since been in the far West, on the front wave of the tide of emigration, where, with a few kindred spirits, he has labored and toiled, suffered and endured, brooked opposition, overcome difficulties, surmounted obstacles of most formidable character, and all that he might have the privilege of preaching the gospel to the poor. He has traversed extended plains, wended his way solitary and alone along deep canyons, gulches and mountain gorges, crossed the high mountain ranges, looked up the settlements in the valleys, and in cabins, in tents, in the open air, tried to preach Jesus and the resurrection where preaching had never before been heard. We would make no invidious distinctions. Our author is in these respects one of a noble band of young men who deserve well of the Church and of the country. Only themselves know what privations and sufferings they have endured, and only a noble soul, fired by the love of Christ and of the souls for whom he died, could have borne up under it all. A few men out there, with the veteran Steteler at their head and in their lead, went there to work and to stay, and we respect and honor them more than words can express.

But what about the book? Well, it is a handsome 12mo, of a little less than 200 pages, but the pages are rather larger than usual, less margin, and contain more matter. The preface is short, modest and appropriate. The illustrations are good, interesting, and we suppose accurate. In all, there are thirteen; among them are a Map of Yellowstone Park, Cliffs, Upper and Lower Falls, and Canyon of the Yellowstone, the Geyser Springs and Basin, Mud Springs, etc.

The matter is divided into eighteen chapters, and as to its character let the reader call to mind some thrillingly interesting letters which the author of the book wrote for this paper a year or two ago; think of the most vivid and best of the descriptions given; then suppose that 25 or 30 per cent. be added to the value of those letters, and he will have a pretty correct idea of the character of this book. It is full of interest, and will, we think, be read with delight by many people. We are not yet informed as to where copies may be procured. Will give notice so soon as the information shall be obtained.

"The Complete Preacher. Volume 2, bound in cloth, 8vo., pp. 333. Price, \$1 50. Religious Newspaper Agency, New York."

It contains the six numbers of The Complete Preacher ending March, 1878. We have presented us in this volume 32 sermons, in full, delivered by some of the most popular preachers in this and other countries; among these are Pere Hyacinthe's discourses recently delivered in Paris on "Reformation of the Family," etc., translated for this publication by Leonard W. Bacon; a most excellent sermon, "The Christian's Royal Survey of his Immense Possession," by Prof. Theodor Christlieb, who awoke so great enthusiasm by his eloquent sermons and speeches at the meeting of the Evangelical Alliance in New York a few years since; the sermons of Canon Farrar and Beecher on Everlasting Punishment, and replies to the same by Drs. Dabney, Fulton, Crosby and Cuyler; other sermons by Newman Hall, Canon Liddon, Potter, Rylance, Phillips, Brooks, Wadsworth, Duryea, Spurgeon, Deems, Joseph Cook, etc. This volume is a valuable addition to the Homiletic Literature of our times.

We have also received the monthly issue of the same work for April. It contains five sermons—one by Rev. H. J. VanDyke, who undertakes to tell us why Christians believe the doctrine of future-everlasting punishment; Canon Liddon discourses on "The Judgment Day;" Adolphe Monod on "The Misery of Man;" Theodor Christlieb on "Aaron's Death," and Justin D. Fulton replies to Canon Farrar.

Terms: Single numbers 25 cents; or \$3 a year. Address the Religious Newspaper Agency, 21 Barclay street, N. Y.

"Wide-Awake" this month is rather more than usually wide-awake. It comes in advance of time—comes in good order, characterized by neatness and attractiveness of appearance, and is of course filled with interesting matter. It improves with age. Terms: \$2 a year. Address D. Lothrop & Co., Boston, Mass.

"The Sunday School Magazine, Visitor and Lesson Papers for May have arrived here. See to it that they arrive in greater or less numbers in every Sunday-school of our Church. They are worthy the place. No better Sunday-school papers in the land. Address A. H. Redford, Nashville, Tenn.

"Errors of the Papacy," by Bishop Marvin, can be had by sending \$2 to Logan D. Dameron, Agent, St. Louis.

Every Sunday school library should contain a few copies of Rev. Eugene R. Hendrix' interesting book of travels, "Around the World."